

Informed Consent Checklist

Summary

Informed consent is necessary to make good medical decisions for your protected person. It is permission or consent that you give to a healthcare provider on behalf of your protected person.

A good medical decision requires teamwork and trust. You will need a healthcare provider you can rely upon and trust to identify and explain medical interventions that may be beneficial to the protected person. An intervention is anything medical being done to the protected person- for example: a surgical procedure or medications). The healthcare provider will need to rely upon and trust you to understand the intervention and, if you so choose, consent to it.

To consent to an intervention, you must have enough information to understand several things: the intervention itself, the impact it will have on the patient, the impact on the patient if the intervention is not done, and any alternatives that may exist. Sometimes, it's hard to know what to ask to make sure you get enough information to give consent. Below are some questions that may be helpful to you when a healthcare provider asks you to make medical decisions for your protected person.

Questions

- What is the name of the intervention you want to do?
 - Why do you think this is the best intervention?
 - What would happen if we didn't do the intervention?
 - What are some of the positive things that can happen from doing the intervention?
 - What are some of the negative things that can happen as a result of the intervention?
 - Will this intervention cure the problem?
 - If it won't cure the problem, how does it help?
 - How long will the intervention work?
 - What kind of follow up is needed for this intervention?
 - Where and how often is follow up needed?
 - What are the alternatives to this intervention?
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